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Posted by the **Environmental Protection Agency** on Feb 25, 2025

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Comment

RE: Interim Framework for Advancing Consideration of Cumulative Impacts.

This framework is key to protecting communities from disproportionate environmental and public health risks, but without enforcement, polluters won't be held accountable.

The EPA must protect us from future attacks on environmental regulations.

The Framework must prioritize enforcement and accountability to prevent existing disparities from worsening. Communities of color, low-income populations, and historically marginalized groups face disproportionate environmental hazards because regulators assess risks individually rather than cumulatively, which further perpetuates harm.

Without strong safeguards, industry loopholes will allow polluters to continue business as usual, exacerbating harm to public health and the environment.

We must hold polluters accountable to prevent continued:

Health disparities – Chronic exposure to multiple pollutants leads to increased rates of asthma, cardiovascular diseases, and cancer.

Regulatory gaps – The existing permitting procedure overlooks cumulative risk, enabling pollution sources like refineries, power plants, and chemical facilities that add to overburdened communities.

Corporate greenwashing – Without strict guidelines, companies may exploit the Framework to justify continued pollution, ignoring the collective impact of multiple polluters.

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The EPA must enforce stronger protections for this framework and prioritize the livelihoods of communities. Together, we can demand a stronger, more just regulatory framework that truly prioritizes human health and the environment.

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